

SALTBURN & MARSKE-BY-THE-SEA
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



NORTH RIDING (GUISBOROUGH)
COMBINED DISTRICTS.

. REPORT .
for the Year 1945
of the Medical Officer of Health,
C. R. GIBSON, M.A., M.B., CH.B.
D.P.H.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
SALTBURN AND MARSKE-BY-THE-SEA
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1945, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular, 28/46.

The population of the Urban District, at the middle of 1945, according to the Registrar-General's estimate, was 6,519—an increase of 127 from the previous year and of 347 from 1932 when the District was enlarged by the inclusion of Marske parish.

The number of births in the District during 1945 was 135, which may be compared with the figure of 123 births in 1944, an average of 101 births annually in the five years 1939—1943, and of 81 in the five years before that. The number of births is the highest recorded in the District and corresponds to a birth-rate of 20·7 per thousand population, the highest of any of the Combined Districts (whose average for the year is 19·0), and much higher than the average rate, 16·1, throughout England and Wales. Many years ago I said on one occasion that the birth-rate was falling so low in your District that one might anticipate the time when a birth would be not so much an event as a phenomenon ; I am glad to be able to say there seems no immediate prospect of that.

The deaths of residents during 1945 numbered 97, corresponding to a death-rate of 14·9 per thousand, which may be compared with a local average rate of 16·3 over the five years 1939—43, and of 13·8 over the five years 1934—38. Although the death-rate for the year may appear high it is mitigated by the fact that the average age of those dying during the year was 61½ years.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was six, corresponding to an infant mortality rate of 44½ infant deaths per thousand births, the rate for England and Wales being 46, and for the Combined Districts 50½. Though a rate calculated on such small numbers may be expected to fluctuate widely, this District has for many years experienced a comparatively low average rate of infant mortality, which reflects a high standard of parental care. Since 1941 there has been no death in the District of any child at ages from 1 to 4 years.

All these vital statistics, and the figures for earlier periods for comparison, are given in Table I of the appendix to this report. The figures for notifiable diseases are given in Table II of the appendix. With the exception of measles the incidence has been slight.

Notified Cases per 1,000 (Civilian) Population, 1945.

		U.D. of Saltburn & Marske	N.R. Combined Districts	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever	....	1·07	2·55	1·89
Diphtheria	....	0·61	1·12	0·46
Enteric Fever	....	0·00	0·00	0·02
Cerebro-Spinal Fever		0·00	0·03	0·05
Measles	....	15·04	16·60	11·67
Whooping-Cough	....	3·22	1·59	1·64
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	14·7	4·49	9·93
<i>(per thousand total births)</i>				

The 102 cases of Measles occurred in the first few months of the year, at the same time as neighbouring districts were affected. Cases were notified from all parts of the District, but the village of New Marske furnished for its size the greatest number of cases. There were no deaths registered as due to this disease.

Of the four civilian cases of diphtheria one was an adult and the other three children under 15 years of age. Two of these had been immunised ; the third one, not immunised, had only recently come to live in the District. There were no deaths from diphtheria.

In Circulars No. 193/45 and 194/45 issued by the Minister of Health on the 14th November, 1945, the Minister intimated his decision that as from 1st January, 1946 the responsibility for immunising children under five years of age should be placed upon Welfare Authorities, instead of, as previously, on Borough or District Councils. The Minister further intimated that, where a Borough or District Council which is not itself the Welfare Authority at present provides facilities for immunisation of children under school age, these arrangements need not be disturbed, and in Circular 8/46 of the 18th January, 1946, he suggested that in such cases the expenditure should now be borne by the County Council as Welfare Authority. In Circular 193/45 the Minister asked that all Medical Officers of Health should keep individual case records of children who receive immunisation in their area and it was suggested that the responsibility for printing record cards and ensuring that a supply is available when required at every centre of whatever kind where immunisation is carried out, should rest on the Welfare Authority. Owing, doubtless, to shortage of cards and slowness of execution of orders a supply of record cards was not received until the end of May, 1946. The Minister also asks for half-yearly and yearly returns summarising the immunisations in each District.

The number of children immunised in the District during the year was 137—14 more than the number born in 1944.

Diphtheria Immunisation : N.R. Combined Districts

	Guisborough U.D.	Loftus U.D.	Redcar Borough	Saltburn & Marske U.D.	Skelton & Brotton U.D.
No. of children immunised					
during 1944	134	114	437	111	58
during 1945	256	152	529	137	212
Estimated number of children					
under 5 years of age	640	616	2050	550	1072
Estimated percentage of these					
immunised at end of 1945	58	38	47	62	35
Estimated number of children					
aged 5—14 years	1185	1019	3780	877	1912
Estimated percentage of these					
immunised at end of 1945	72	95	64	70	50
Cases of diphtheria in 1945 in					
children under 15 years	13	13	12	3	3
Number of these known to have					
been previously immunised	9	7	7	2	1
Deaths from diphtheria in 1945					
in children under 15					
years. (all in non-					
immunised)	—	3	1	—	—

Five new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, all pulmonary ; this is the same number as in the previous year and a big fall from the record number of 14 new cases in 1942 and 10 in 1943. The number of deaths from this disease—four—is still, however, rather above the pre-war level, and this experience is shared with the other members of the Combined Districts.

Venereal Disease. The Minister of Health's Circular 42/45 dealt with propaganda against venereal disease, and suggested that Local District and Borough Councils should co-operate with the County Council for this purpose. In this area the County Council supplied posters and the District Council undertook their display on hoardings and such like.

Verminous Infestation. Two cases of scabies were reported through the schools during the year. No case of infestation with body-lice has come to notice.

Water Supply in the Area. This has been generally satisfactory during the year both in quality and quantity. Consultation has been maintained with the Cleveland Water Company regarding the increase of their collecting and storage arrangements to cope with a dry season. Laboratory report on a sample of water submitted in November, 1945, is given in Table IV in the appendix.

The percentage of the population and of the houses supplied direct from a public piped supply is 94%, with 6% supplied from standpipes.

The water has not been found to have any solvent action on lead.

Post-War Housing. Additional building sites of 5·56 acres at Marske Road, Saltburn, and of 1·9 acres at Meadow Road, Marske, were acquired during the year, and in addition a further 3·3 acres at Meadow Road, Marske, as a site for the erection of 36 temporary houses. The lay-out plan for all these sites has been approved and work has commenced on the site for temporary houses on the construction of roads and sewers.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. R. GIBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Guisborough,

August 9th, 1946.

APPENDIX.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the District.

Area (in acres) : 4,573.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1945 : 6,392.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945) according to Rate-books : 2,243.

Rateable Value : £48,074.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £189.

The area is residential and a sea-side resort, with a proportion of the population employed in iron and steel works, and on the railway.

APPENDIX.

1. SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Period.	Population.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths at Ages		Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	Yearly Birth-rate.	Yearly Death-rate.	Infant Mortality Rate (Infant deaths per thousand births).
				Under 1 year	1—4 years.				
1884—1888	1,939	226	101	25	—	—	29·2	13·2	111
1889—1893	2,232	242	115	—	—	—	21·7	10·3	89
1894—1898	2,400	221	102	22	8	—	18·4	8·5	100
1899—1903	2,578	224	153	13	8	—	17·4	11·9	58
1904—1908	2,930	310	162	29	6	21	21·2	11·0	94
1909—1913	3,324	301	204	24	12	14	18·1	12·3	80
1914—1918	3,400	287	177	15	—	14	16·9	10·4	62
1919—1923	3,844	300	228	20	10	14	16·0	12·1	67
1924—1928	3,869	219	225	11	9	12	11·3	11·6	50
1929—1933	4,956	223	310	13	6	8	9·0	12·5	59
1934—1938	6,713	407	463	20	3	14	12·1	13·8	49
1939—1943	6,508	504	531	30	7	17	15·5	16·3	59
1944	6,392	123	102	5	0	1	19·2	16·0	40½
1945	6,519	135	97	6	0	3	20·7	14·9	44½

2. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1945
(other than Tuberculosis).

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2	3	4	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65—	Cases Admit'd Hospital	Total Deaths	Service Cases
Scarlet Fever	13	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	—	1	1	—	12	—	6
Diphtheria	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	5	—	2
Pneumonia	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	21	1	4	5	3	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	102	5	12	16	14	13	34	1	6	—	—	—	—	4	—	4

**3. PATIENTS ADMITTED TO GUISBOROUGH & DISTRICT
JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL
(from North Riding Combined Districts).**

	1/4/33 to 31/3/34	34/35	35/36	36/37	37/38	38/39	39/40	40/41	41/42	42/43	43/44	44/45
Scarlet Fever	149	290	148	220	227	128	26	48	27	32	110	85
Diphtheria	54	132	23	30	32	73	32	56	73	36	22	92
Enteric Fever	2	3	—	44	4	1	2	1	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Puerperal Fever	3	3	4	5	3	1	—	—	1	1	1	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	1	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	18	5	6	4	3
Others	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	29	30	36	40	56
TOTAL	210	429	177	301	266	210	85	154	139	114	179	236
Service and outside patients (included)	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	25	24	29	32	52

TABLE IV

Summary of Report on Analysis of a Sample of Water from tap at Council Offices, Saltburn (Cleveland Water Co.) submitted on November 22nd, 1945, to The Counties Public Health Laboratory.

(Chemical results in parts per 100,000)

Turbidity, parts per million, Silica scale		5—
Reaction, p.H.	....	6·6
Free Carbonic Acid	....	1·3
Chlorine in Chlorides	....	1·7
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	....	3·5
Hardness : Total	....	6·0
Temporary	....	1·5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	....	0·00
Nitrogen in Nitrites	....	0·00
Free Ammonia	....	0·0024
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	0·0068
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	....	0·170
Metals : Iron	....	0·010
Others	....	absent
Free Chlorine reaction	....	absent

Bacteriological Results

Bacteria growing on Agar		
per c.c. in 1 day at 37°C.	....	0
2 days at 37°C.	....	0
3 days at 20°C.	....	3
Presumptive Coli reaction	....	absent in 100 c.c.
C. Welchii reaction	....	absent in 100 c.c.

